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P A P E R

RECEIVED

BY HIS MAJESTY

from the Committee of both
Houses, upon the
Eight of April.

WITH
HIS MAJESTIES

Gracious Message to both Houses in
Answer to the same.



Printed by His MAJESTIES Command
AT OXFORD,

By LEONARD LICHFIELD, Printer
to the University. 1643.

PAPER

RECEIVED

from the Committee of both
Houses of the
General Assembly

WITNESSETH

THESE

Various Messages to both Houses in

59...569,70



~~682-08~~

by the Committee of both Houses

AT OXFORD

By the Secretary of the Committee of both Houses

1868



APRIL. 8. 1643.

BY Instructions this day received from both Houses of Parliament, We humbly conceive, that we are to acquaint Your Majesty, That they have taken into consideration Your Majesties Answer to their Reasons concerning the Cessation, wherein there are divers Expressions which will occasion particular Replies, which at this time they desire to decline, Their wishes and endeavours being earnestly bent upon the obtaining a speedy Peace, for which Cause they doe not thinke good to consume any more of the time allowed for the Treaty in any farther debates upon the Cessation, concerning which they find Your Majesties Expressions so doubtful, that it cannot be suddenly or easily resolved, and the Remainder of the time for the whole Treaty, being but seven dayes, if the Cessation were presently agreed,

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it would not yeeld any considerable advantage to the Kingdome.

Wherefore we are required to desire Your Majesty to give a speedy and Positive Answer to the first Proposition concerning the disbanding, That so Your Subjects may not only have a shadow of Peace, in a short time of Cessation, but the substance of it in such manner as may be a perpetuall Blessing to them, by freeing the Kingdome from those miserable effects of Warre, the effusion of English Blood, and desolation of many parts of the Land.

Northumberland.

Io: Holland.

Wil: Armine.

Wil: Perpont.

B: whitelocke.

His

HIS MAJESTIES

GRATIOUS MESSAGE TO

both Houses in Answer to the

Foregoing Paper.



F the Committee, according to His Majesties Desire, had had but Power to agree in the wording of Expressions in the Articles of Cessation, His Majesties (which are as cleare as the matter would heare, and as He could make them) had not appeared lo doubtfull to any, but that the Cessation might have been suddenly and speedily resolved, and that long before this time. And if the Expressions of both Houses in their Reasons had not necessitated His Majesty in His owne Defence, to give such Answers as could not upon those points deliver Truth without some show of sharpnesse, no expression of that kind in His Majesties Answer had given any Pretence for the Rejection of, or refusing so much as to Treat upon the Cessation; Which (though it were at present for no long time,) yet was from the day named by themselves the 25. of *March*, Whereas His Majesty first mov'd for a Cessation and Treaty without any Limitation at all in the time of either, and His Majesty was most ready to have enlarged the time (so that in the

mean while the poynt of Quarters might be so settled, as that His Armies might subsist) and which might have been (if they had pleas'd) a very good and promising earnest and Forerunner of that great Blessing of Peace, for the obtaining of which the wishes & Endeavours of all good men being earnestly bent, a farther debate in order to so great a benefit did not deserve to be stiled a Consumption of time. And His Majesty cannot but conceive Himselfe to be in a strange Condition, if the Doubtfulnesse of Expressions, (which must alwaies be whilst the Treaty is at such a Distance, and power is denied to those upon the Place to help to cleare and explaine) Or His necessary Replying to Charges laid upon Him, (that He might not seem to acknowledge what was so charged) Or the Limitation of the time of seven daies for the Treaty (which was not limited by His Majesty, whoever desired to have avoyded that and other Limitations, which have given great interruptions to it) should be as well beleev'd to be the Grounds, as they are made the Arguments of the Rejection of that, which (next to Peace it selfe) His Majesty above all things most desires to see agreed and settled, and which His Majesty hopes (if it may be yet agreed on) will give His People such a Taste of such a Blessing, that after a
short

short time of consideration and comparing of their severall Conditions in Warre and Peace, and what should move them to suffer so much by a Change, they will not think those their Friends that shall force them to it, or be themselves ready to contribute to the renewing of their former miseries, without some greater evidence of Necessity then can appeare to them, when they shall have seen (as they shall see, if this Treaty be suffered to proceed) that His Majesty neither asks nor denies any thing, but what not onely according to Law He may, but what in Honour and Care of His People He is obliged to ask or deny. And this alone (which a very short Cessation would produce) His Majesty esteemes a very considerable Advantage to the Kingdom; and therefore cannot but presse againe and againe, that whatever is thought doubtfull in the Expressions of the Articles may (as in an Houre it may well be done) be expounded, and whatsoever is excepted at may be debated and concluded, and that Power and Instructions may be given to the Committee to that end, that the miserable effects of Warre, the effusion of English blood, and desolation of England (untill they can be totally taken away) may by this meanes be stayed and interrupted.

His Majesty supposes, that when the Committee

mittee was last required to desire His *Majesty* to give a speedy and positive Answer to the first Proposition concerning disbanding, His Answers in that point (to which no Reply hath been made, and which He hopes by this time have given satisfaction) were not transmitted and received, but wonders the Houses should presse His *Majesty* for a speedy & positive Answer to the first part of their first Proposition concerning disbanding, when to the second part of the very same Proposition, concerning His Returne to both Houses of *Parliament*, they had not given any Power or Instructions to the Committee, (so much as to Treat with His *Majesty*; And when His *Majesty* (if His desire of Peace and of speeding the Treaty in order to that had not been prevalent with Him) might with all manner of Justice have delayed to beginne to Treat upon one part, untill they had been inabled to Treat upon the other; In which point, and for want of which Power from them, the only stop now remains, His *Majesties* Answers to both parts of their first Proposition, being given in, transmitted, and yet remaining unanswered. To which, untill the Houses shall be at Leasure to make answer, that as little delay in this Treaty, as is possible, may be caus'd by it, His *Majesty* desires likewise, That the Committee may be enabled to Treat upon the following Propositions in their severall orders.

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